

The President's Message.

Fellow citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Throughout the year since our last meeting, we have done much to advance the cause of freedom and justice. The health of our country has been excellent, our harvests abundant, and our people contented. The Union has been preserved, and our rights maintained.

It is my duty to report to you the progress of our government. We have passed laws to protect our citizens, and to maintain the integrity of our Union. The Executive branch has acted with vigor and discretion.

Our relations with foreign nations are peaceful and friendly. We have maintained our neutrality, and our commerce is flourishing. The world looks to us with respect and admiration.

It is my duty to call your attention to the state of our Union. We are facing challenges, but I am confident in our ability to overcome them. We must remain united and true to our principles.

I have the honor to acknowledge the many good deeds of our citizens. Your patriotism and devotion to the cause of freedom are a source of pride and inspiration.

I am, fellow citizens, your obedient servant. I trust that you will continue to support the Executive branch in its efforts to serve the people and preserve the Union.

of Kansas, on the 23d of February, 1860, passed in great haste an act over the veto of the Governor, declaring that slavery is, and shall be forever prohibited in the Territory. Such an act, however, plainly violating the rights of property secured by the Constitution, will surely be declared void by the Judiciary whenever it shall be presented to it.

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